



DoD/VA Leadership Partnering in Change

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The Power of VA-DoD Sharing Conference
June 2, 2009



DoD/VA Partnership Some History



- 1982: Public Law 97-174
Requires the two Secretaries to enter into health care resource sharing agreements that are mutually beneficial
- Middle 90s – Tricare
- Last Administration: President's Management Agenda Initiative 14 called for the two Departments to increase their level of data sharing to improve their coordination of health care and eliminate potentially duplicative budgeting
- 2002: Public Law 107-314
Sec. 721 Established the Joint Incentive Fund (\$15M annually from each Department)
- 2003: Public Law 108-136
Sec. 583 Establishment of the Joint Executive Council
- Future: ?



DoD/VA Partnership



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- Vision
 - A world-class partnership that delivers seamless, cost-effective, quality services and value to our nation
 - Mission
 - To improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of benefits and services to veterans, service members, military retirees and their families through an enhanced VA and DoD partnership



DoD/VA Partnership



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- Direct Sharing Agreements
 - Agreements for healthcare services, administrative services, and educational services
 - VHA facilities participate as TRICARE Providers
 - Joint Incentive Fund
 - Joint Ventures



DoD/VA Partnership

VA/DoD JOINT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (JEC)

Co-Chairs:

*Deputy Secretary of Defense &
Deputy Secretary, Veterans Affairs*

VA/DoD BENEFITS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (BEC)

Co-Chairs:

*Principal Deputy Under
Secretary of Defense
(Personnel &
Readiness) &
Under Secretary for
Benefits, Veterans
Affairs*

VA/DoD HEALTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (HEC)

Co-Chairs:

*Assistant Secretary of
Defense (Health
Affairs)
&
Under Secretary for
Health, Veterans Affairs*

VA/DoD INTERAGENCY PROGRAM OFFICE (IPO)

Leadership:

*Director (DoD)
&
Deputy Director (VA)*



FY 2008 Annual Report on the DoD/VA Partnership



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- Submitted to the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs and Congress as required by law
 - Details the accomplishment of the councils and work groups
 - VA / DoD Collaboration Results
 - Information Technology Advancements
 - Health Care Resource Sharing
 - Includes the Joint Strategic Plan (JSP)



VA/DoD DoD/VA Partnership Overview - Joint Strategic Plan (JSP)



- Current VA/DoD JSP Fiscal Years 2009 – 2011:
 - Is updated each fiscal year as a 3-year plan,
 - Contains 6 Strategic Goals,
 - Is the single comprehensive record for all VA/DoD sharing including all joint wounded, ill and injured initiatives, and
 - Is included as Appendix A to the VA/DoD Annual Report.
- The Annual Report is posted to the DoD/VA Program Coordination Office, Health Affairs, website:
<http://www.tricare.mil/DVPCO/reports.cfm>



DoD/VA Partnership JSP Focus FY 2009-2011



- Update JSP goals, objectives, milestones, and performance measures
- Incorporate legislated requirements
- Continue to incorporate SOC approved recommendations from:
 - Interagency Task Force On Returning Global War On Terror Heroes (GWOT)
 - President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors (PCCWW)
 - DoD Mental Health Task Force (MHTF)
 - Army IG Report
 - Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission (VDBC)
 - West-Marsh Independent Review Group (IRG)
- Coordinate JSP submissions with SOC/OIPT Lines of Action co-chairs



Joint Strategic Plan

The Road Map for Partnering



- Goals
 - Leadership Commitment and Accountability
 - High Quality Health Care
 - Seamless Coordination of Benefits
 - Integrated Information Sharing
 - Efficiency of Operations
 - Joint Medical Contingency/Readiness Capabilities
- As the primary means to advance performance goals, the Joint Strategic Plan is continuously evaluated, updated and improved
- Will continue to incorporate recommendations from various task forces, review groups, and panels to assess wounded warrior care and seamless transition



DoD/VA Partnership Agreements



- 260 active agreements nationwide
- Trend toward “master” sharing agreements that can cover a full spectrum of available services.
- Examples include; Graduate Medical Education (GME), Laundry, Administration, Clinical Pathology, Cardiology, Dermatology, Ambulatory Care Services, Radiology, Mental Health, Neurosurgery, Fitness Centers



DoD/VA Partnership TRICARE Agreements



- VA Medical Facilities participate as TRICARE Network Providers
- Most specialty care services may be provided by VAMCs
- TRICARE agreements may be negotiated by VAMC or VISN
- VAMCs submit bills for care to the Managed Care Support Contractors



DoD/VA Partnership Joint Incentive Fund (JIF)



- Authorized by National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2003. Each Agency must contribute \$15M annually
- Currently authorized through FY2010
- 68 projects funded to date
- \$190 million in funding to date
- Flexible funding between Departments is a critical tool
- Provides “start up” cost. Business plan must show return on investment
- Needs to provide benefit to both Departments
- Expansion of funding and scope is likely to include aspects of projects such as the CAPT James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC)



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Some Types



- Treating veterans and DoD beneficiaries being seen in both health care systems (dual eligibles)
- Negotiating a sharing agreement
- Attending joint DoD/VA healthcare training
- Purchasing supplies and equipment from joint DoD/VA contracts
- Assisting with the transition of injured or ill warriors from active duty status to veteran status
- Providing input to stakeholders' audits and surveys



DoD/VA Partnership Leadership Tips



- Communication, Communication, Communication
- Knowledge is the key...
 - Know how DoD/VA sharing affects your operations
 - Be aware of current legislation and guidance... especially in reference to OIF/OEF veterans and seamless transition
 - Current initiatives... Joint Incentive Fund, Demonstration Site Selection, Single separation process, etc
- Look for opportunities
 - Inpatient & ambulatory care
 - Medical & dental
 - Ancillary care services
 - Continuing Education opportunities
 - Clinical currency requirements
 - Seamless transition assistance



DoD/VA Partnership

Joint Marketing Opportunities(JMO)

Phase I & Ib: Models for Sharing



- Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center—North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Naval Hospital Great Lakes
 - The first federal healthcare facility with a single management structure
 - Will integrate all clinical and administrative services under one line of authority
- The Joint Executive Council identified 4 sites for increased sharing
 - Tripler Army Medical Center and VA Pacific Island Health Care System
 - Mike O’Callaghan Federal Hospital and Nellis Air Force Base
 - Keesler Air Force Base and Biloxi VA Medical Center
 - Buckley Air Force Base and Denver VA Medical Center



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JMO - Phase II



- Health care markets serving large, multi-service, DoD and VA populations.
- Areas identified and visited:
 - San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Killeen/TempleTX
 - Charleston, SC
 - Tampa, FL
 - Columbus, GA
 - Florida Gulf Coast
 - Denver/Colorado Springs, CO
 - Seattle/Puget Sound area
 - Guam
- Analyze data from Phase II and work with sites to develop initial/additional sharing strategies
- Sites to report back to JMO on accomplishments and constraints



DoD/VA Partnership

What's Behind It?



- DoD and VA are committed to continued emphasis on sharing of electronic medical records
- There is a focus on the collaboration on the provision of specialized care to service members and veterans
 - Psychological Health Services and Care
 - Traumatic Brain Injury
 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Both the DoD and the VA are working to improve case management and standardize the delivery of care across the continuum
- DoD and VA are working closely to provide a seamless and transparent disability process, one that is jointly administered by both organizations